



Oxenhope

Gardening Club News

May 2023

Welcome to the May newsletter.



I hope you are all looking forward to our plant sale on June 8th and I hope you are going to donate lots of plants. And buy lots of plants! We would also be grateful if you could bake us some cakes- they are always delicious!

Our June garden visit will be to the wonderful Shipley in Bloom gardens. There are 17 gardens taking part over Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th June, 1pm till 5pm and most will be offering homemade cakes and light refreshments. (Some will be selling plants.) The gardens are also playing host to Hive, a Community Arts Charity, offering gorgeous ceramics, pots and sculptures. Your £3 entry ticket raises funds for The Children's Society. Tickets will be on sale at the May Oxenhope Gardening Club meeting, from the Children's Society Shop, Bingley Road, Saltaire BD18 4SB or on the day at 15 Nab Wood Rise, Shipley, BD18 4JA

Our speaker in September is Chris Beardshaw. We anticipate a strong demand for places at this meeting, and as we are only insured for 100 people in the hall, we want to prioritise our members (who will **not** need to pay the £20 we are asking non-members to pay) To have an approximate number of the places available to non-members, it would be very helpful if you could let us know if you are unable to attend the meeting, either at our plant sale in June, or via our Facebook page.

Sandra.

Wild Way: The Art of Gardening for Nature



Our speaker this month is Jack Wallington. Jack is based at Hebden Bridge and trained at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh and now works around the world designing gardens. His gardens are different and are a meeting place between art and nature. Jack uses naturalistic planting with an eye on long term regeneration, sustainability and wildlife. Plants are the core to all his designs; how they combine with one another to create atmosphere and a working ecosystem.

Plant of the Month. *Smyrniium Perfoliatum*



An old cottage garden favourite and loved by flower arrangers, but not often seen or available. A great plant for adding a lime green highlight and a zing to your mixed border. The leaves are a rich green at the base but sulphur yellow nearer the top. It flowers in its second year, producing clusters of tiny yellowish – green stars that look stunning among blue and purple flowers. You may have seen this flower among the flower arrangements on the tea tables at our last plant sale-it raised

many questions as to what it was!

In the wild, *Smyrniium* are native to the Mediterranean areas of Europe where they grow in areas of sun, or dappled shade. This is an upright biennial which flowers in late spring and early summer.

It has an unusual germination technique. It germinates then dies down as a baby tuber until the following year. Excellent at naturalising it needs to be sown in situ where desired and not in seed trays. It germinates slowly in the cold and is best sown in autumn to overwinter outdoors and then it will germinate in spring.

Garden visits.

May: Members wishing to visit Marlene and Dave Storah's garden, please contact them on 01706 814438 or 07958 645594 to arrange a time to visit

July: we are arranging a visit to The Grange in Skipton on July 26. Donations to Manorlands to be paid on entry. Please sign up for this at the next meeting.

August: we are arranging a visit to Parcevall Hall Gardens on August 17. Entry will be £8 (£7 over 65's) +£2 for the guide. Please sign up for this either at the next meeting or at the plant sale.

Final details for July and August visits will be available at the June plant sale.

September's speaker: Chris Beardshaw.

Gardening news and events:

Gargrave Open Gardens: Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 June

Thornton Open Gardens: Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 June

Harlow Carr Bath House Gallery: Lakes, Dales Moors Art. May 25-June 27

Tea and Coffee: We always welcome volunteers to help with teas and coffees!